FBI

Date: 2/23/67

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Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, JACKSONVILLE (62-NEW)

SUBJ: HENRY THOMAS KILLAM, aka
Thomas Henry Killam,
Red Killam,
Hank Killam
INFORMATION CONCERNING

For the information of the Bureau, an article appeared in the "Pensacola Journal", Pensacola, Fla., Wednesday morning issue 2/22/67, entitled "Brother Wants Body Exhumed. Did Mystery Death Here Link to JFK?"

In part, the above article states "An autopsy and investigation in the mysterious Pensacola death of a man supposedly frightened and fleeing 'Agents' or plotters of President JOHN F. KENNEDY's assassination was asked here Tuesday night. Official request will be made to County Solicitor CARL HARPER, Wednesday."

" 'I'm a dead man,' THOMAS HENRY KILLAM had cried in anguish to a brother in 1964 after constant questioning and harassment forced him to flee Tampa. 'But I've run as far as I'm going to run.' Two days later he was dead. The brother, (CARLE J. KILLAM, 24 Pennington Drive, Pensacola, Florida), with long-smoldering fires of frustration now aflamed over breaking news now of New Orleans involving an alleged plot to kill KENNEDY, said Tuesday he had asked County Solicitor HARPER for the exhumation of the body of his brother. District Attorney [illegible] of New Orleans said that there was a conspiracy to kill President KENNEDY and that arrests will be made and convictions obtained.

(3) - Bureau
2 - Jacksonville
WOL:jeb
(5)

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SEARCHED ... INDEXED
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MAR - 1 1967
FBI—DALLAS

"HANK KILLAM, whose wife (WANDA KILLAM) sold cigarettes and stripped for JACK RUBY in Dallas' infamous Carousel Club, was found dead, his jugular vein cut, admidst shattered glass on downtown streets of Pensacola on 3/17/64.

"Police listed the death as 'Possible suicide'.

"Either for real or fantasy reasons, HANK KILLAM, whose wife had a 15 year association with JACK RUBY, began to feel their past working relationship was causing persecution.

"Too, KILLAM knew JOHN CARTER, who had lived with LEE OSWALD in Mrs. A. C. JOHNSON's Dallas Rooming House. He painted a few houses with CARTER-these two links being the only traceable ones connecting KILLAM to either RUBY or OSWALD.

"But men he described as 'Federal Agents' visited him repeatedly after the assassination, he lost one job after another and he attributed this to the interrogations. He said that the men never showed identification.

"So did his wife, Wanda. KILLAM even left Dallas for Florida.

"But the 'Agents' browbeat his wife into telling them where he was, she said. 'Florida', Wanda reportedly told them."

The article continues to give some background information regarding KILLAM, to the effect that Escambia County Coroner, Pensacola, Fla., after KILLAM's death reported that KILLAM apparently died of a 3" deep laceration over the left side of his neck. The death was ruled accidental.

For the information of the Bureau, no Agents in the Jacksonville Division have interviewed KILLAM and Jacksonville Office indices are negative re KILLAM.

On 2/23/67, SMYTH R. GILL (NA), Investigator, County Solicitor's Office, Pensacola, Fla., advised that County Solicitor CARL HARPER on 2/22/67, had been contacted by

deceased's brother, EARLE J. KILLAM, after the brother had read an article regarding District Attorney JIM GARRISON's investigation in New Orleans concerning the assassination of President KENNEDY. EARLE J. KILLAM requested that the body of the deceased be exhumed and an autopsy performed to determine exact reason for death, inasmuch as the deceased knew the above mentioned JOHN CARTER and deceased's wife, WANDA, had known JACK RUBY.

Mr. GILL stated he had previously known the deceased HENRY THOMAS KILLAM, white male, born 9/20/22, Pensacola, Fla., for a number of years, and related that on 5/12/58, the deceased was arrested by local authorities on charges of B & E and GL. On 10/23/58, deceased entered plea of guilty to charges and was placed on 7 years probation. Shortly after being placed on probation, deceased absconded; however, turned himself in to local authorities on or about 12/6/63.

Mr. GILL continued that after deceased turned himself in, deceased was continued on probation. GILL said after this the deceased's mother, MARY JANE KILLAM, 316 W. Romana St., Pensacola, called him on numerous occasions and requested aid in placing deceased in a mental institution as he was "hearing voices on radio" that did not exist, "imagining people were following him" and also seeing "snakes". Deceased's mother also told him that deceased was taking some kind of pills.

GILL said he visited deceased and his mother on numerous occasions, accompanied by Florida Probation Officer JOHN R. SKINNER. On one occasion he obtained samples of the pills being taken by deceased and had them analized and determined that they were barbituate and amphetamine tablets. As a result, arrangements were made to have deceased committed to Escambia General Hospital for treatment and which committment was scheduled for [illegible]

GILL stated that he is of the opinion that during a hallucination, the deceased either fell or jumped into the store window which resulted in his death by being cut by broken glass.

Mr. GILL advised that at the present time Solicitor HARPER is in the process of making inquiries to determine if there is any reasonable ground to exhume deceased's body and conduct an autopsy; however, at the present time Mr. HARPER does not believe there is sufficient ground or reason for such action.

Newspaper clipping being forwarded to Bureau for information, and this matter will be followed closely with County Solicitor's Office, Pensacola, Fla., and Bureau will be advised of any pertinent developments.